

NORTON SOUND/PORT CLARENCE AREA

PROPOSAL F2003-1

Existing regulation: Norton Sound-Port Clarence & Yukon-Northern Areas

Customary and Traditional Use Determination - Norton Sound – Port Clarence Area, waters draining into Norton Sound between Point Romanof and Canal Point - All fish - Residents of Stebbins, St. Michael, and Kotlik.

Proposed regulation:

§____.27(i)(2)(ii) *In the Norton Sound District, you may take fish at any time except as follows:*

(A) The waters draining into Norton Sound between Point Romanof and Canal Point are closed to all non-Federally qualified users.

(B) Only residents of Stebbins and St. Michael may harvest fish from the waters draining into Norton Sound between Point Romanof and Canal Point.

Reason for changing the regulation: The Pikmiktalik streams are not rivers, but are small, non-navigable waterways with small fish populations. The communities of St. Michael and Stebbins have all their permanent fish camps on these small streams, and are totally dependent upon them, with no other alternatives for fish resources in their area. Two Kotlik families are documented as having or having had a permanent fish camp in the Pikmiktalik area, and Kotlik residents use fishery resources in the Pikmiktalik group area while hunting or berry picking. The majority of Kotlik residents' permanent fish camps are located on the Yukon River and its tributaries. When the Yukon fishery began to fail within the past several years, commercial and other fishermen were displaced to the Pikmiktalik stream area. The resources in the Pikmiktalik streams are small in number, and the residents of St. Michael and Stebbins fear the collapse of this small fishery as well.

Effect of change on fish or shellfish populations: This action will protect the fish resources for future generations of subsistence users using the Pikmiktalik stream group and will keep for them a viable fish population.

Effect of change on subsistence users: Such an action will have the immediate effect of restricting subsistence resource use of the fish in the Pikmiktalik stream group for the residents of Kotlik.

Additional Information:

Proposed by: St. Michael and Stebbins IRA's